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SPECIAL AWARD — is presented to Mrs. Jack Ledford, center, by Mrs. Francis T. Slate, president of The Armed Forces Hostess Association, in recognition of seven years service with the AFHA. Maj. Gen. Curtis J. Herrick, commanding general, Mil-

itary District of Washington is at left. The Country Squire Restaurant, Falls Church, was the place where the presentation took place March 15. (U.S. Army Photo)

northern virginia's

World of Women

Armed Forces Hostesses Celebrate Anniversary

A March 15 luncheon at the Country Squire, Falls Church, marked the 17th anniversary of the Armed Forces Hostess Association whose volunteer service office is located in the Pentagon.

Thirty Pentagon hostesses, a representation of the 220 Neighborhood hostesses who stand by as a "friend in need" to newcomers in Northern Virginia, AFHA's founders and honorary members gathered to hear Major General Curtis J. Herrick, OG MDW express the appreciation of the Armed Forces for the service the organization has

provided in making the family life of military personnel less arduous.

The group was honored by the presence of Mrs. Delk M. Oden and Mrs. F. P. Campbell of Alexandria and Mrs. Clifton von Kann of Washington who organized the service group in 1949.

Mrs. Jack Ledford was especially honored by Major General Herrick and the organization with a special merit award for outstanding service. Mrs. Ledford and her husband Brigadier General Ledford live at 1020 N. Quincy in Arlington. She

has worked for seven years with AFHA in which time she has been president, vice-president, overseas chairman, office manager and for the past two years has trained volunteer workers. Last year she spent 285 hours in the office.

The general also presented citations to the following women in recognition of their long hours of volunteer service:

Mrs. Wilkes D. Kelly, Mrs. Peter G. Olenchuk, Mrs. Dan McCartney, Mrs. S. W. Drag-nich and Mrs. Paul Wells, all

of Arlington. Alexandria women honored were Mrs. Francis T. Slate, Mrs. Glenn R. Gjertson, Mrs. Thomas A. Payne and Mrs. Donald Stiver.

New officers who assumed

their duties at the March luncheon were, Mrs. Slate, second term as president; Mrs. Peter Olenchuk, vice-president, Mrs. Gerome G. Welkom, Alexandria, secretary - treasurer; and Mrs. Wilkes D. Kelly, office manager.

The luncheon committee consisted of Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Gjertson, Mrs. Welkom and Mrs. Payne.